# CONNECTIONS

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# Recovery Plan: Investing in Dayton's future



ransformational investments and community needs identified by Dayton residents in collaboration with the City of Dayton will be targeted by funding made possible by the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA).

President Biden signed the \$1.9 trillion act into law in March of 2021, which included an allocation of \$138 million for the City of Dayton. The funding is intended to stimulate recovery from the negative economic and health impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic and is the largest grant received in Dayton's history.

Following a series of community meetings, a survey and other participation opportunities, the Dayton Recovery Plan was developed under the direction of the City Manager as a guide for the Dayton's ARPA investments. The Plan was adopted by the City Commission in December of 2021 and provides a framework for infusion of ARPA funding into these targeted areas and focus neighborhoods: Wolf Creek, Edgemont, Carillon, Miami Chapel, Five Oaks, Old North Dayton, Twin Towers and the Wright Factory Site in West Dayton, with a goal of disrupting multi-generational poverty, income, and health disparities. Investments in these neighborhoods will not only seed growth and revitalization but will encourage quality-of-life investments citywide.

The Dayton Recovery Plan will support demolition of up to 1,000 blighted properties throughout the city, housing improvements, sidewalk/curb repairs and tree lawn

upgrades, park enhancements, new spray parks, black- and brownowned businesses, economic development and job creation, and a combined police/fire station in Northwest Dayton.

During 2021, the City solicited applications from community groups and local businesses to apply for a portion of the recovery funds to address community needs. A sub-committee of the Community and Neighborhood Development Advisory Board scored 93 eligible applications, recommending 42 for potential funding. After thorough review, City Commission approval will be considered, with goal of finalizing all awards by mid-2022.

For more information on the Dayton Recovery Plan, visit daytonohio.gov/arpa.

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# Recognizing Black firefighters: Past, present, future

The Dayton Fire Department recognizes the contributions of Black firefighters as it works to diversify its ranks for the future.

Three trailblazers changed the course of DFD history.

Herbert Redden III was the first African American to become Director & Chief of the Dayton Fire Department. Chief Redden served the Dayton community from 2008 to 2013 and oversaw many important advancements in department operations. Following his retirement he returned to Memphis, Tennessee, where he passed away in 2016.

Randolph Jones Tams was Dayton's first African American firefighter. Virginia-born Tams moved to Ohio in 1887 at age 10 and later served in the Ohio National Guard before joining DFD in 1907. He studied fire prevention, worked as a driver for the department, and was a contemporary and friend of Paul Laurence Dunbar and the Wright brothers.

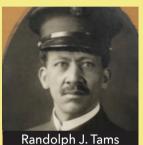
George Anderson is a retired (1990) African
American firefighter residing in the Dayton
area. He spent the last 13 years of his career as Dayton Fire's first
arson investigator; his contributions led to the creation of the Arson
Investigation Unit.

The Department's most recent recruiting campaign is complete, but anyone interested in a firefighting career in Dayton can learn more at joindaytonfire.com.

Dayton's current firefighting professionals include (left to right:) Firefighter Ervin Oliver, Firefighter Philip Duncan, Firefighter Roderick McElwain, and Lt. Kenneth Cole. ▼









#### **City Commission**

937-333-3636
Mayor Jeffrey J. Mims, Jr.
Matt Joseph
Chris Shaw
Darryl Fairchild
Shenise Turner-Sloss

## **City Manager**

Shelley Dickstein 937-333-3600 cityhall@daytonohio.gov

#### **Customer Services**

Service Requests 937-333-4800 Download/use the Dayton Delivers app

#### Water/Utility Billing

937-333-3550 PayDaytonWater.com

### **Building Permits/Inspection**

937-333-3883

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DaytonOhio.gov FlyDayton.com DaytonWater.org





# Working together for young people and stronger neighborhoods

Highlights of the 2022 State of the City Address by Mayor Jeffrey J. Mims, Jr., presented Feb. 9.

Together, we share the goal of making Dayton better, and it is an honor to lead this effort. In the short time I've been mayor, I've had the honor of representing Dayton at the Harvard School of Political Science, the Ohio Mayors Alliance, and the U.S. Conference of Mayors. I have recognized from these early experiences that Dayton is making a difference.

For several years now, Dayton has been on the move. We passed Issue 9 in 2016, generating millions of dollars and allowing us to mow vacant lots, resurface roads, make park improvements and offer high-quality preschool to every three-and four-year old. We capitalized on investments in our city's core through projects like the Levitt Pavilion and the transformative revitalization of the Arcade, which had been dormant for 30 years. And we've stabilized our population, which was on a downward spiral.

This spirit of collaboration and resilience has allowed us to navigate through multiple life-altering challenges. And while it's true that COVID-19 has presented great challenges, there are still great opportunities ahead. Just last week, I joined our governor and other leaders to officially welcome Sierra Nevada Corporation to Dayton. Their new \$38 million aircraft facilities at Dayton International Airport will create nearly 150 good-paying jobs, with \$10.8 million in annual payroll for our area. Additionally, we are seeing continued investment downtown, with \$600 million worth of development in the pipeline.

We are continuing investment in our neighborhoods with \$138 million in federal American Rescue Plan Act funds. The Dayton Recovery Plan was developed using socioeconomic, health, and demographic data, along with extensive

Giving young people opportunities for safe and productive lives is critical to making sure that Dayton is both safe and prosperous.

community input. I am proud to say that Dayton is a national leader in developing an ARPA plan that is strongly shaped by the community, and we are one of the only cities in Ohio to solicit applications for community projects and small businesses that will result in millions of dollars in assistance.

While it was clear from our community survey that demolition is a top priority, there are many structures that can be made livable again with the \$18.7 million that we're dedicating toward housing improvements, including new construction and rehab assistance.

I want to thank City Manager Shelley Dickstein for her leadership and our Planning, Neighborhoods, and Development staff for their work with neighborhood leaders over 18 months to develop neighborhood plans.

With more and more people working from home, their tax dollars will stay in the communities where they live, forcing Dayton to potentially lose up to \$20 million per year. In response to this, the Dayton Recovery Plan will provide a safety net of revenue replacement for the next three years to ensure that we maintain basic services. But this is only a temporary solution. That is why we plan to take proactive steps and work collectively with cities in the Ohio Mayors Alliance and our state legislature to identify solutions.

Shortly after the pandemic's onset, our nation erupted in protest sparked by the tragic murder of George Floyd. In response, this community came together across five working groups convened for nearly a year to examine the City's policing policies and to review national best practices. The working groups made dozens of recommendations aimed at creating greater trust between our police and our citizens. And under the leadership of Chief Kamran Afzal, the vast majority of these recommendations are actively in the process of being implementedincluding a new de-escalation and

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# **Waste Collection Guidelines**

Thank you for helping City of Dayton Division of Waste Collection crews pick up your garbage and recycling safely and on schedule.

- Containers should be at the street curb or alley by 6:30 a.m. on your collection day. Lids must be closed and handles should face your home.
- Containers should be at least 3 feet apart and at least 5 feet from trees, parked cars, fences, mailboxes, etc. Improperly placed containers may not be emptied.
- Please do not leave containers at the curb or alley after collection day.
- No loose trash (must be bagged); no trash or bags piled on top or around container.
- No construction materials (lumber, concrete, drywall, debris).
- No hazardous materials (batteries, automotive fluids, paint, lacquer, stain, thinner, varnish, wood preservatives) or chemicals of any kind (pool chemicals, pesticides, weed killer, etc.).
- No fluorescent light tubes and no electronic waste (televisions, computers, monitors, printers, VCRs, cellphones, telephones, radios, microwaves, etc.).
- No compressed cylinders, oxygen or propane tanks.
- No biological/medical items (no needles or sharps). Animal and human waste must be double bagged (a bag within a bag).

Residents can dispose of green debris (leaves, branches, grass clippings, tree limbs, etc.) by taking it to 2670 Wagner Ford Road, Dayton. The green landfill is a free service for Dayton residents. More information at daytonohio.gov/greendebris.



# **Recycling is easy!**

- Glass jars and bottles (all colors).
- Metal cans (aluminum, steel cans/lids, empty aerosol cans with lids/tips removed).
- Plastic bottles (emptied/crushed; typically bottles/ jugs with small mouth and wider base such as milk jugs, soda/water bottles, laundry detergent bottles, shampoo/body wash bottles).
- Paper (newspaper, magazines, clean cardboard, office paper and envelopes, paperboard/cereal boxes, pizza boxes not soiled by food/grease, phone books, catalogs).
- Cartons (food/beverage cartons such as milk, juice, soup, wine, broth, etc.).

# **Recycling Tips**

- Mix items together, no need to separate by type.
- Empty all bottles, jugs and cans; no need to remove labels.
- For cartons, remove plastic caps and straws.
- Never place medical waste, sharps or needles in recycling or garbage.
- No plastic bags!

# **Let's Recycle Right!**

The City of Dayton wants to help you "Recycle Right." Non-recyclable items placed in recycling containers can cause delays, increase operating costs or redirect a container's contents to the landfill rather than the recycling center. The Division of Waste Collection may place reminder notices at your residence; repeated contamination of recyclable materials may result in discontinuation of collection.



Downland the Dayton Collects app (or go to daytonohiol.gov/daytoncollects) for reminders on your waste/recycling collection schedule.

For collection schedules, customer service questions, to schedule a bulk pickup or to begin recycling, visit daytonohio.gov/wastecollection, call 937-333-4800 or use the Dayton Delivers app. For information on disposal of hazardous waste and electronics, go to mcswd.org or call 937-225-4999.

# West Dayton: Renewal, transformation across the landscape

Many new developments, assets and attractions are underway in West Dayton, bringing renewal to the landscape and opportunity to the community. Here are just some of the projects to be completed or making significant progress in 2022.

#### **DAYTON METRO LIBRARY-WEST BRANCH**

The newest branch in the Dayton Metro Library system (at Rt. 35 and Abbey Ave.) is now open to serve the community as a resource for learning and a place for special events and programs. The 24,000-sq.-ft. structure is located on the emerging Wright Factory campus, and its dramatic design echoes West Dayton's crucial role in aviation history. A community celebration is planned for Wednesday, May 4. For more information, go to daytonmetrolibrary.org.



## **ECONOMY LINEN**

This growing Dayton company provides hygienic linen and uniform cleaning for clients including hospitals, surgery centers, and doctors' offices. The new \$21 million, 80,000-sq.-ft. facility at the corner of McCall St. and James H. McGee Blvd. is opening in March and will be home to 70 jobs, with employment expected to grow. Economy is committed to employing residents of nearby neighborhoods. The Dayton Development Coalition has named the new Economy Linen facility as the Project of the Year for its transformational nature. The City of Dayton's Dept. of Planning, Neighborhoods and Development provided a variety of services to assist with the project's completion.

### **FIVE RIVERS HEALTH CENTER**

The non-profit healthcare provider is on track to complete a \$34 million, 84,000-sq.-ft. integrated primary care facility on Cincinnati St., in the Edgemont neighborhood. Services to be provided include pediatrics, women's health, internal medicine, specialty



care, dental, pharmacy with drive-through, and a laboratory. The facility is positioned to support a medically under-served and low-income population and is an example of public/private partnership, with funding provided by the City of Dayton, Montgomery County, and CityWide's New Market Tax Credit program.



### W. SOCIAL TAP AND TABLE

Wright Dunbar, Inc., and Dillin Corp. are set to launch the newest attraction in the historic Wright-Dunbar district by spring. The food hall will bring a variety of dine-in food and beverage options to people who live, work, and play in Greater West Dayton, as well as nearby downtown Dayton.

# WRIGHT FACTORY SITE

The world's oldest aircraft manufacturing site will take more steps toward becoming a major tourism attraction and economic catalyst. City of Dayton staff are finalizing plans to increase connectivity and access within the site and with adjacent neighborhoods. Landscaping and other enhancements will create a visually appealing Rt. 35 gateway to West Dayton. Partners including the City of Dayton, the National Park Service and the National Aviation Heritage Alliance continue to take steps to stabilize the historic hangars for future restoration. Through the American Rescue Plan Act and other funding sources, stabilization and beautification activities will begin in April.

# Looking for ways to reduce pollution?

Stormwater runoff—with litter, debris and pollutants including animal waste, fertilizers, motor oil and much more—flows directly into streams and rivers without treatment. It can be very harmful to fish and other animals, plants and people.

You may wonder what you can do to help. By adopting a storm drain or by signing up to do a DIY river or neighborhood clean-up, you can be the first line of defense in preventing pollutants from entering our rivers and streams.

The Dayton Water Department's Division of Environmental Management will support your clean-up efforts by providing gloves, bags, and grabbers and will collect the trash after your event. To sign up, visit daytonohio.gov/watercleanup.



You can also adopt a storm drain! This program is similar to the more familiar Adopt-A-Road campaign. When you adopt a storm drain, you commit to raising awareness of the importance of storm drains and keeping a watchful eye. Your attention helps ensure that fewer harmful pollutants enter the storm drain and keeps our streams and rivers cleaner. To get started, go to

daytonohio.gov/adoptadrain. You can choose an address or intersection closest to the drain you want to adopt, making it easier to be an environmental steward.

For more information about Dayton's stormwater programs, visit daytonohio.gov/stormwater or call 937-333-8598.





# State of the City cont'd from page 3

training policy, the creation of an independent accountability auditor, and the creation of a non-police responder for non-violent calls.

Unfortunately, we have seen a dramatic increase in juvenile arrests this year. Research tells us the most effective way to stop crime is before it starts, before a police officer would ever arrive on the scene. Giving young people opportunities for safe and productive lives is critical to making sure that Dayton is both safe and prosperous. Research has told us repeatedly that involvement in activities including music, art, and other extracurriculars are the primary indicators of success in life.

During my time as a Commissioner, I was proud to start Ohio's first chapter under President Obama's My Brother's Keeper Initiative, with a mission of developing and supporting the education and leadership potential of males of color throughout their lifespan.

As mayor, I intend to build upon my work with young people, so today I would like to announce that we will soon be rolling out the Brighter Futures framework.

We owe it to our young people to make sure they have real opportunities to succeed. But we cannot ask parents and teachers to take on that task alone. As a community, we need to focus on what our kids are experiencing outside of the classroom, like how they spend their time, what mentors they have in their lives, how they think about their futures. We need to recognize the burden that the uncertainty of the world today has had on their mental and well-being. It is going to take all of us, working together, to make sure every one of Dayton's kids has a bright future.

To that end, I, along with my staff, will be working with key partners to identify opportunities for supporting youth mental health, recreation, mentoring, civic engagement,

and workforce development. I recognize that we must improve the collaboration between the City and our schools to take better advantage of the workforce needs created by new industry coming to Dayton. The sooner Dayton's youth begin to work, the sooner they begin to increase Dayton's median income. My hope is that through continued investment in our children, we can propel them to live up to their full potential and keep their talent in Dayton.

I'd like to leave you with this thought: Young people are 20 percent of our city's population, and they are 100 percent of our future. We must do all we can to ensure that they become contributing members of a thriving community.

Thank you, and it's been a distinct honor to share with you my passion, my love for Dayton, and a piece of my heart.





City of Dayton • 101 W. Third Street • Dayton, Ohio 45401-0022





# Do you file City tax returns?

In-person assistance is available for City of Dayton income tax customers who file tax returns with the City. Appointments are available Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 4.30 p.m. To schedule an appointment, call 937-333-3500 or go to daytonincometax.setmore.com. Customers needing to drop off income tax documents and/or payments may use the secure drop boxes located inside and outside City Hall (101 W. Third St.). Customers may also make income tax payments and submit supporting tax documents online at daytonohio. gov/paytax. The filing deadline for 2021 City income tax returns is Monday, April 18, 2022.

# **Collaboration prevents homelessness**

The Dayton Mediation Center's Landlord/Tenant

Homelessness Prevention program works throughout Montgomery County to maintain housing for those at risk of homelessness. Services include mediation, conflict coaching, landlord/tenant education,

and referral to other agencies to assist in areas such as rental assistance. Services are free and confidential, and translation services are available upon request. The Dayton Mediation Center received federal **CARES Act Emergency** Solutions Grants funds from the City of Dayton and Montgomery County to support this program. For more information, contact Aaron Primm at 937-333-2349 or Aaron.Primm@ daytonohio.gov.

